IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/542934 Confirmation No. 9164

Applicant : Hiroshi Akaba et al. Filed : July 21, 2005

TC/A.U. : 3616 Examiner : N/A

Title : TRAVEL SAFETY DEVICE FOR MOTOR VEHICLE (as

amended)

Docket No. : SHG-16197 Customer No. : 040854

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir/Madam:

In accordance with Rule 56, applicant is aware of the publication listed in the enclosed copy of Patent Office Form PTO/SB/08A. This publication was first cited in a Japanese Office action dated October 30, 2007 (copy attached, along with an English translation) in the corresponding Japanese application. A copy of this publication is enclosed herewith. The first three publications cited (JP H10-338111, JP H7-81520, and JP H6-107118) were previously filed in an Information Disclosure Statement dated June 12, 2007. The fourth publication cited, JP H9-175327, was previously filed in an Information Disclosure Statement dated July 21, 2005.

If there are any fees as a result of this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 18-0160 Order No. SHG-16197.

Respectfully submitted,

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November 12, 2007

From: 03 5288 5835 Page: 4/11 Date: 11/7/2007 11:26:51 PM

Ref. No.: H102386404 Mailing Number: 551893

Mailing Date: 2007/10/30 (year/month/day)

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NOTICE OF REASONS FOR REJECTION

Application Number:

2004-004650

Drafted:

2007/10/26 (year/month/day)

Examiner:

Michibiro HAYASHI

3525 3W00

Attorney:

Masatake SHIGA et al.

Cited Articles:

Article 29, Paragraph 2

<<Final>>

This application should be rejected for the reasons lain forth below. If the applicant wishes to comment thereon, the applicant is invited to submit a response within 60 days from the Mailing Date of this notice.

REASON

The invention(s) according to the below-listed claim(s) of the present application could have been easily made prior to the filing of the present application by a person with average knowledge in the field to which the invention(s) belongs based on the invention(s) described in the below-listed distributed publication(s) or made available to the public through electric telecommunication lines in Japan or elsewhere prior to the filing of the present application, and it is therefore deemed to be unpatentable under the provisions of Japanese Patent Law, Article 29, Paragraph 2.

(See the List of Citations for the cited publications)

EXAMINER'S COMMENTS

· Claim: 1

· Citations: 1 to 5

· Remarks

Citations 1 to 3 disclose a matter of simultaneously activating an automatic brake apparatus and a seatbelt apparatus.

Citation 4 discloses a matter of alternate repetition of tightning and loosening a seatbelt.

Citation 5 (refer to Fig. 2, in particular) discloses a matter belonging to the technical field of a travel safety apparatus for a vehicle, and a matter of generating stepwise

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increased degree of deceleration gradually.

LIST OF CITATIONS

(Citation 5 is newly quoted)

- 1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application, First Publication No. H10-338111
- 2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application, First Publication No. H7-81520
- 3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application, First Publication No. H6-107118
- 4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application, First Publication No. H9-175327
- 5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application, First Publication No. S54-33444

<Claim(s) for which no reasons for rejection were found>

No reasons for rejection of the invention according to claim 2 have not been found at this time.

<Reasons for Final Notice of Reasons for Rejection>

This is a Notice of Reasons for rejection informing only about reasons for rejection for which it is necessary to communicate due to amendments during the response to the first notice of Reasons for Rejection.